

Claims

1. A system including a receiver for broadcast data said receiver including a means for identifying and storing broadcast programme material in a memory means and allowing subsequent selected retrieval of material from the memory, characterised in that said system includes the steps of receiving the broadcast programme material and, if the material is in an encrypted format, processing the material using some or all of the steps of data de-scrambling and/or data decrypting and/or data stream parsing to generate a number of location identifiers for respective portions of the material, which identifiers are held in a database for reference and upon selection of an identifier or identifiers, retrieval of a respective portion or portions of material from the memory means.

2. A ^{Method} ~~system~~ according to claim 1 wherein the encrypted material undergoes a further processing step of copy protection so that when the material is stored in the memory it is protected against unauthorised copying.

3. A ^{Method} ~~system~~ according to claim 1 wherein the processing step for the encrypted material is performed as one process so as to prevent unauthorised access to the material when in a descrambled form.

4. A ^{Method} ~~system~~ according to claim 1 wherein if ^{Said} ~~the~~ broadcast programme material received is not encrypted, ~~the same~~ is received and identified for storage in a memory but need not pass through at least the processing step of descrambling.

5. A ^{Method} ~~system~~ according to claim 1 wherein the database of location identifiers which is generated in relation to the encrypted material is also encrypted to ensure security of the material.

6. A method of generating a database index of the location of specified features of video and/or audio data material relating to a broadcast programme held in a memory device, said material received by a broadcast data receiver from a remote location in an encrypted form and wherein the method comprises the steps of decrypting the data, parsing the data to generate a plurality of location identifiers for respective portions of the material, and storing the said location identifiers in a database, and locally encrypting the material prior to storage in the memory device.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the memory device and processing means for performing the method described are located in the broadcast data receiver which receives the broadcast programme material from a remote source.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the programme material received is transmitted in an encoded digital format and the receiver includes means for decoding the received data, generating video and/or audio displays via a television set or monitor screen and speakers in connection with the data receiver.

9. A broadcast data receiver provided for the reception of broadcast digital data from a remote location, the decoding of the data and generation of video, audio and/or auxiliary data for viewing and/or listening via a display screen and/or speakers to which the receiver is connected, said broadcast data receiver provided with or connected to a memory means for the storage of video, audio and/or auxiliary material generated from the received data for selective access at a subsequent time and wherein if said data is received in an unencrypted form, the data is decoded and stored in the memory means in conjunction with a record of the location identifier for said material to allow subsequent retrieval and

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if the data is received in an encrypted form the data is decrypted, parsed to generate a plurality of location identifiers for respective portions of the data material, and stored, with the said location identifiers held in a database, and the material is locally encrypted to storage in the memory device.

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